

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

KINGSTON, Jack (Republican)  
Representative, 1st District, Georgia  
Elected 1992 to 103rd Congress  
Reelected to succeeding Congresses



## BACKGROUND

Born: Bryon, Texas - 24 April 1955  
Home: Savannah, Georgia  
Marital status: Married (Elizabeth) - 4 children  
Religion: Episcopalian  
Education: U. of Georgia, B.A. 1978  
Military: None  
Profession: Insurance agent

Political: GA State House, 1984-92. In the 92 general election, defeated Barbara Christmas (D), garnering 57% of the vote for the seat of retiring Rep Lindsay Thomas (D). Reelected in 2000 with 69% of the vote, and in 2002 with 72% to the re-drawn 1<sup>st</sup> District.

Rep Kingston is a conservative. In the 106<sup>th</sup> Congress chaired the House Republican Theme Team which articulated the GOP leadership's agenda. Criticized the Clinton administration for not acting sooner in response to allegations of Chinese espionage at DoE weapons labs, stating that W-88 nuclear warheads were now in the hands of the Chinese military. Opposed the HAC-recommended cuts in the F-22 program in the FY00 DoD appropriations bill, stating that a pause in funding F-22 procurement could put the entire program at risk. Led the fight to build the F-22 because it would be built by Lockheed Martin in his home state. Opposed US-NATO air and missile strikes against Yugoslavia, stating that the conflict was the result of US diplomatic ineptitude and bad foreign policy. Said US intervention set a bad precedent. Supported a national missile defense system and the 4.8% military pay raise. Suggested that President Clinton led an "anti-military" administration. Criticized Vice President Gore for his effort to revise the Pentagon's acquisition process and make it more like the private sector. Drew attention to the waste of taxpayer dollars, asking "How did the Army lose a \$1 million rocket launcher? How did the Air Force lose 15 jets?" Opposed congressional attempts to close the Army's School of the Americas at Ft Benning, rejecting the notion that it helped train terrorists.

In the 107<sup>th</sup> Congress, joined most of the Georgia congressional delegation in asking the Air Force to build 25 C-130 aircraft over the following five years. Worked with the Air Force to determine the existence and potential danger posed by a bomb supposedly lost in 1958 near Tybee, GA in the Wassaw Sound. Said he felt that it was inevitable that the US would end up in another war with Iraq. With respect to the US commitment in Afghanistan, said the US must balance the need for stability and freedom against tying down US troops for long periods of time in foreign countries. Suggested that the US pulled out of Iraq prematurely after Desert Storm leaving Saddam Hussein in power.

In the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress, picked up both Warner-Robins AFB and Moody AFB as a result of redistricting. Elected as the House Republican Conference Vice Chairman. Gained a seat on the HAC Military Construction Subc.

Additional: The Army's Fort Stewart and the Navy's Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base are in his district. Gulfstream Aerospace is in the district as is Savannah Foods, the nation's largest sugar refinery. Member of the Anti-Terrorism Caucus. Served on HAC/Milcon Subc in 105<sup>th</sup>. AF Bases: Savannah MAP; Warner-Robins AFB; Moody AFB

## COMMITTEES

APPROPRIATIONS -- Subcs on: Legislative -- Chairman; Military Construction; Agriculture